

It is no surprise that polling data from CBS News, CNBC, and others shows that the vast majority of Americans—in this case, 87 percent in these two polls—support investing in and improving our infrastructure.

For these reasons, the House of Representatives needs to pass this bill without delay and help us achieve this win for the American people. It has been almost 3 months since the legislation passed here in the U.S. Senate—almost 3 months. It passed by a vote of 69 to 30.

It is now being held up by progressives in the House of Representatives who want the second bill—the massive tax-and-spend bill, the reconciliation bill—more than they want the infrastructure bill. So they are holding the infrastructure bill hostage, thinking that somehow that will enable them to get more moderate Democrats to support the massive tax-and-spend bill. I don't think that is going to happen, but, meanwhile, they are hurting the American people by holding it hostage.

The second bill that Democrats are contemplating, which is the reconciliation bill, a massive tax-and-spend bill, would inject at least \$2 trillion more in largely stimulus funding into an already overheated economy. In order to try to pay for it, it also includes significant tax increases that will hurt economic growth and jobs.

Democrats claim they are taxing the rich and corporations to pay for it, but we shouldn't be fooled. The middle class will bear the brunt of what they are proposing, as they always do.

As an example, the proposed Medicare surcharge on active investment income will hit the millions of small businesses that structured themselves as pass-through entities, as the vast majority do, with an across-the-board 3.8-percent increase on all income.

Proposed corporate tax increases will hit American workers, based on the analyses of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and the nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation. It is very simple. When you tax a company, the workers end up taking the brunt of it. About 70 percent of the benefit of the tax cuts and about 70 percent of the detriment of the tax increases goes to worker wages and benefits. Costs will be passed down to working families in the form of even lower wages and even more inflation, which means higher prices for everything.

That is bad for the families that I represent. Any objective analysis will show that this massive tax-and-spend bill will actually cost a lot more than advertised.

Why do I say that? Because it uses some budget gimmicks to be able to make the cost of the bill look like less.

Based on a new study that just came out by the Penn Wharton folks, if benefit programs put in place by the bill—let's say the child tax credit—increase and are not sunset in the 10-year window, then the cost goes from \$1.75 trillion to \$3.98 trillion. In other words, if

you just assume that we are not going to sunset things like the child tax credit, the cost goes to almost \$4 trillion.

Democrats are proposing to end these new benefits partway through their 10-year window to help keep the costs down, knowing full well that, historically, benefit programs like this are not ended but always extended.

So, taking away the budget gimmicks, the cost of this massive tax-and-spend bill gets it closer to \$4 trillion. By the way, that is more than twice as much as Congress has ever spent on a spending bill in the history of our country.

I strongly urge President Biden and Democrats in Congress to slow down this process at a time of high inflation, record debt, and consider the devastating economic consequences of what they are proposing. This increased spending, combined with job-killing tax increases, could lead to the kind of stagflation, as they called it, that we had back in the 1970s: low growth, high interest rates, high inflation. We never want to go back there. Yet, if we don't change course, we could be heading in that direction.

Here is a better solution. Just pass the right bill: the bipartisan, pro-growth infrastructure bill that has been stuck in the House of Representatives for almost 3 months. President Biden has said he will sign it into law. It would be a victory for the American people.

Stop holding it hostage. Instead of holding it hostage, do something good for our infrastructure, which everyone relies on—good for our economy, good for American families, and good for the country right now.

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, it would be a needed bipartisan victory for which all of us—Republican and Democrat alike—could give thanks.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). The Senator from Michigan.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the Harris, Coleman, Prieto, and Nayak nominations be considered expired; further, that at 11 a.m., tomorrow, Wednesday, November 3, the Senate vote on confirmation of the Harris and Coleman nominations, and, at 5:15 p.m., on confirmation of the Prieto and Nayak nominations, all in the order listed; and, finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session, that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 501, Maj. Gen. John D. Caine, to be Lieutenant General, and that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The clerk read the nomination of the following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: to be Lieutenant General, Maj. Gen. John D. Caine.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Caine nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all without intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF ISOBEL COLEMAN

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I rise today to express my enthusiastic support for the nomination of Ambassador Isobel Coleman to be Deputy Administrator for Policy and Programming at the United States Agency for International Development.

As the world faces mounting challenges—from climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, forced migration spurred by conflict, lack of economic opportunity, and growing food insecurity, to the emergence of antidemocratic and authoritarian leaders—USAID's work is critically important to the U.S. national security and global stability.

I am pleased to be supporting Ambassador Coleman's nomination, and I am confident that her extensive development experience and her years of distinguished public service, including at the United Nations, serving with Administrator Power, provide her with the type of background and knowledge required to address the challenges ahead, if confirmed. She is a well-known and trusted foreign affairs professional, and I am confident she will execute her duties with distinction.

The fact that Ambassador Coleman's nomination, someone whose leadership is so essential, has languished on the Senate floor for almost 3 months is a travesty.

I urge my colleagues to support her nomination and make sure that this critical position is filled without further delay.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MONTINE McNULTY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to applaud the CEO of the Arkansas Hospitality Association, Montine McNulty, who will be retiring at the end of this year.

During this very challenging time for the hospitality industry, McNulty persevered through all of the difficulties that transpired amid the COVID-19 pandemic. When small businesses were shutting down and people were taking early retirements, McNulty decided to postpone retirement to help Arkansas' hospitality industry navigate the new economic realities it confronted after COVID-19 appeared and disrupted so much about how and when business operated. Her selflessness and devotion to ensuring that the industry not only stayed alive, but succeeded during those difficult times, was truly inspiring.

McNulty has spent the past 25 years leading the AHA. There are a number of significant changes that have occurred during her tenure as CEO, all of which McNulty adapted to for the benefit of the AHA, the industry, and the Natural State's economy. Technology innovations over the last two-and-a-half decades have allowed for quick and effective communication and relationship building within the hospitality industry. McNulty expertly used these advancements to the advantage of AHA members, and the results have been to position the organization's tools and capabilities to assist businesses in expanding on and delivering better services.

Because of McNulty's excellent leadership skills, the Arkansas hospitality industry has been able to thrive for the past quarter century. She will be sincerely missed when she leaves the AHA.

Of course, McNulty will not completely leave the hospitality industry even after stepping down as CEO of AHA. She is an emeritus member of the Arkansas Parks, Heritage and Tourism Commission, and current president of the Arkansas Tourism Development Foundation—roles that will allow her to continue offering her wisdom and expertise into the future.

Montine McNulty is an excellent example of a true leader and an excellent businesswoman. Arkansas will be forever grateful for the contributions she has made to the hospitality industry and our economy. It is an honor to celebrate her 25 years of leadership and

extend our sincere thanks for all her efforts that served to improve and contribute to our great State.●

TRIBUTE TO LEVI GOODAN AND MAURGAN McGRATH

• Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I am proud to recognize Levi Goodan of Meriden and Maurgan McGrath of Hopkinton as October's Granite Staters of the Month. Levi and Maurgan both separately started initiatives to donate toys and other goods to patients at the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth—CHaD—to help provide comfort to young patients with serious illnesses.

At the age of 8, Levi was treated at the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth for multiple broken bones over the course of 1 year. Following his treatment, Levi decided to donate his birthday and Christmas gifts to CHaD, since he knew how difficult spending nights at the hospital could be and wanted to lift peoples' spirits. He was inspired by his late grandfather, who used to tell him stories about receiving treatment for polio when he was a child at Boston Children's Hospital. His grandfather would frequently emphasize to Levi the importance of staying strong, hopeful, and positive in difficult circumstances.

Since then, Levi continues to donate to CHaD. He most enjoys donating Legos, Play-Doh, fidget spinners, and projects such as kits to grow at-home crystals.

Maurgan was born with a prenatal condition called malrotation, which results in problems in the normal formation of the fetal intestines, and as a result, she underwent various surgeries at CHaD while growing up. She remembers how lonely her experience was at times and did not want other children to feel the same way. As part of her senior year project, Maurgan began collecting books, games, and pajamas for children at CHaD to help them regain a sense of hope.

Levi and Maurgan exemplify the Granite State spirit, taking a difficult time in their lives and using the experience as a source of strength. In both their cases, they helped bring joy to other young people who are facing similar challenges. Their commitment to helping other children navigating the often lonely, scary world of hospital visits should inspire all of us to give back and become more involved in our communities. I am honored to name them as Granite Staters of the Month, and I know that they will continue to make a positive difference in their communities for years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO BRADEN AND JAYDEN HARPER

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I wish to honor two brave citizens of Junction City, KS, Braden and Jayden Harper. These young gentlemen put themselves in the face of danger to save two toddlers from a near fatal accident.

In September, Braden and Jayden were helping their aunt wash her car, when they heard screaming coming from a nearby house. They thought at first it was just other children playing on a trampoline, but soon the screaming sounded more like people in peril. The two boys peered over the fence of a nearby house to find the source of the noise and saw twin toddlers not even 2 years old about to drown in a swimming pool.

The second they saw the situation, Braden and Jayden hopped over the fence and made a beeline for the pool to rescue the two toddlers. Both the twins were unharmed in the incident, thanks to the Harpers.

Because of their efforts, the Harper brothers not only were acknowledged as heroes in school, but also by the Junction City Police Department. Now, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Braden and Jayden for their heroics.

These two young men have truly shown what being a good neighbor and good citizen means. They have made their families and the great State of Kansas proud.●

TRIBUTE TO JULIA MISEMER

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, today I wish to congratulate Julia Misemer, of Blue Valley West High School in Overland Park, KS, on her fourth consecutive State champion title in golf. She is the only golfer to achieve 4-time 6A State champion in Kansas history.

The Blue Valley West senior recorded back to back 73s in the 2-day Class 6A State tournament held at Emporia Municipal Golf Course. Her excellence also helped the Jaguars take home the team State championship. Julia is now a four-time Eastern Kansas League Champion, four-time 6A regional Champion, and four-time 6A State Champion—making her the most decorated golfer in Kansas high school history.

This year alone, Julia has also finished second in the Justin Thomas Junior Championship, second in the Girls Junior PGA Championship, and first in the UHY Kansas City Junior Tournament. She is currently ranked 23rd nationally by the American Junior Golf Association. Julia was also a member of the Junior Ryder Cup Team which participated in an exhibition match at this year's Ryder Cup at Whistling Straits in Kohler, WI. This incredible career of talent and consistency on the golf course has been rewarded by an offer to play at the University of Arizona, which she accepted.

I take pride in distinguishing Julia Misemer as an exceptional competitor in the world of Kansas high school sports and national junior golf. I look forward to seeing Julia continue her athletic excellence at the collegiate level and beyond.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Julia's achievement and wish